

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/042,943

Applicant(s)

GERSTENBERGER ET AL.

Examiner

John D. Lee

Art Unit

2874

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment submitted on July 12, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-56.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

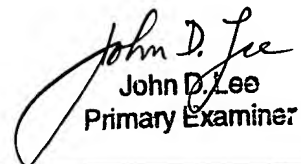
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
John D. Lee  
Primary Examiner

### **EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance: Applicant has amended each of the previously rejected independent claims to change the recitation "approximately 230 to 250 nanometers" to simply "230 to 250 nanometers". This amended limitation clearly overcomes the previously applied rejection based upon U.S. Patent 6,483,965 to Napier et al, since the Examiner was relying on the fact that 266 nanometers (as taught in Napier et al) is close enough to the wavelength range of "approximately to 230 to 250 nanometers" that a person of ordinary skill in the art would have found any difference therein to be obvious. Since the claims (as amended) now positively require a fourth harmonic wavelength within the range of 230 to 250 nanometers, Napier et al would *not* have rendered the claimed apparatus obvious. The previously applied rejection based upon Napier et al is therefore withdrawn and claims 1-52 are allowed. Claims 53-56 remain allowable for the reasons set forth in the previous Office action.

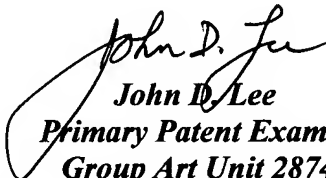
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### **DISCUSSION OF THE CITED PRIOR ART**

U.S. Patent 6,701,044 to Arbore et al is cited on the attached form PTO-892. This U.S. Patent discloses and claims a very similar apparatus for writing a Bragg grating in an optical fiber, the apparatus comprising a solid-state laser providing a fourth harmonic

wavelength between 240 and 250 nanometers. Because of its date, however, this U.S. Patent cannot be used as a reference against the claims of the present application. It also does not appear that applicant can copy the Arbore et al claims (in order to provoke an interference) because Arbore et al includes a filtering fiber amplifier as part of the claimed apparatus.

Any inquiry concerning the merits of this communication should be directed to Examiner John D. Lee at telephone number (571) 272-2351. The Examiner's normal work schedule is Tuesday through Friday, 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Any inquiry of a general or clerical nature (i.e. a request for a missing form or paper, etc.) should be directed to the Technology Center 2800 receptionist at telephone number (571) 272-1562, to the technical support staff supervisor (Team 8) at telephone number (571) 272-1564, or to the Technology Center 2800 Customer Service Office at telephone number (571) 272-1626.

  
**John D. Lee**  
**Primary Patent Examiner**  
**Group Art Unit 2874**